

in prosecuting the work. Have built our Cabins, cleared the route for upwards of a mile, and have grubbed all that is necessary for some time. We have worked out something over a thousand dollars, or had done it before the first of the month. The Engineer's estimates were about one thousand and they did not make a liberal allowance—made none for any of the rock that we quarried out, (not blasted but in the road) but said that in the final estimate, they would. The estimates now made are only approximate, there being no great accuracy in them.

This, Sir, we have done with all the disadvantages of new beginners in (for this part of the State) a new work. There has been various causes that hindered our operations. One is in not having feed provision, etc., convenient, and having to send some of the Rail Road hands and horses for it. This not only hinders the hand sent, but disarranges our plans, for we have to stop the carts. This will not do at all *now*, for we can't ever spare a single horse now without great inconvenience. For the last month Mr. Vaughan has supplied us with feed, but he does not feel himself under obligations to do so any longer, as you have given him no instructions to do so. He says that he has but two hands that he could send, and they are his dependance on the farm, and that he cannot spare them without great inconvenience. He no doubt wants to do good work on the farm, but it is to your interest to have feed brought here. Whenever I can send for it without hindering our operations too much, I will do so, and will do what I can towards bringing the feed here.

Another disadvantage that we have had was the procuring stone for culverts. We were inexperienced in the business, not fixed well for getting it out, the stone hard to get, and a great distance to haul it. Esqr. Johnston made a good many efforts to procure an experienced quarrier, but could not, with the exception of one, who staid but a day. He proving to be a worthless fellow.

I am happy to inform you that you have got clear of this difficult and expensive job, for it is one for which you are entirely unprepared, and is one that would require a continual expense of cash, and it would have taken close and undivided attention to have made it a profitable business.

It was a fortunate thing that your partner was so successful. I do not think it a hard trade on the part of Messrs. Tinney and Wright, for they could afford to do it cheaper than any others in this part of the country.